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(Original Signature of Member)

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. _____

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Blue
Star Banner and the Gold Star.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

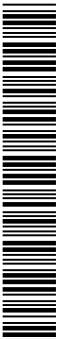
Mr. SHADEGG submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives
regarding the Blue Star Banner and the Gold Star.

Whereas the Blue Star Banner was patented and designed in
1917, during the height of the First World War, by
Army Captain Robert L. Queissner of the 5th Ohio In-
fantry, who had two sons serving on the front lines;

Whereas the banner quickly became the symbol for a family
member serving the Nation and families began proudly
displaying these banners in their front windows during
the First World War;



Whereas each Blue Star on the banner represents a family member serving in the Armed Services and symbolizes hope and pride;

Whereas beginning in 1918, the Blue Star in the banner was replaced by a Gold Star if the family member was killed on active duty to symbolize his or her sacrifice for the cause of freedom and liberty;

Whereas the banners were displayed widely during the Second World War;

Whereas many of the banners displayed during the First and Second World Wars were hand-made by the mothers of those serving in the Armed Forces;

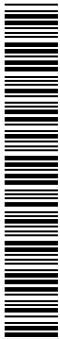
Whereas the Blue Star Banner is the official banner authorized by law to be displayed in honor of a family member serving the United States, while the Gold Star may be displayed in honor of a family member who has made the ultimate sacrifice for the Nation;

Whereas for over 85 years, families have proudly displayed the Blue Star Banner showing service men and women the honor and pride that is taken in their sacrifices for freedom;

Whereas the banner may be displayed by members of the immediate family of a loved one serving in the Armed Forces, including active duty service in a unit of the National Guard or the Reserves;

Whereas the banner may be flown by families with a service member stationed either domestically or overseas;

Whereas the display of the banner in the front window of a home shows a family's pride in their loved one and is a reminder that preserving America's freedom demands great sacrifice; and



Whereas this reminder is especially timely during the current conflict with Iraq and the war on terrorism: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) calls on all Americans to honor the men and
3 women of the United States Armed Forces and their
4 families;

5 (2) honors the men and women of the United
6 States Armed Forces and their families;

7 (3) encourages these families to proudly display
8 the Blue Star Banner or, if their loved one has made
9 the ultimate sacrifice, the Gold Star; and

10 (4) calls on the media to recognize the impor-
11 tance of the Blue Star Banner and its symbolism of
12 the devotion and service of the men and women of
13 the United States Armed Forces.

14 SEC. 2. The authority on which this resolution rests
15 is the authority of Congress to make all laws which shall
16 be necessary and proper as provided in Article I, section
17 8 of the United States Constitution.

